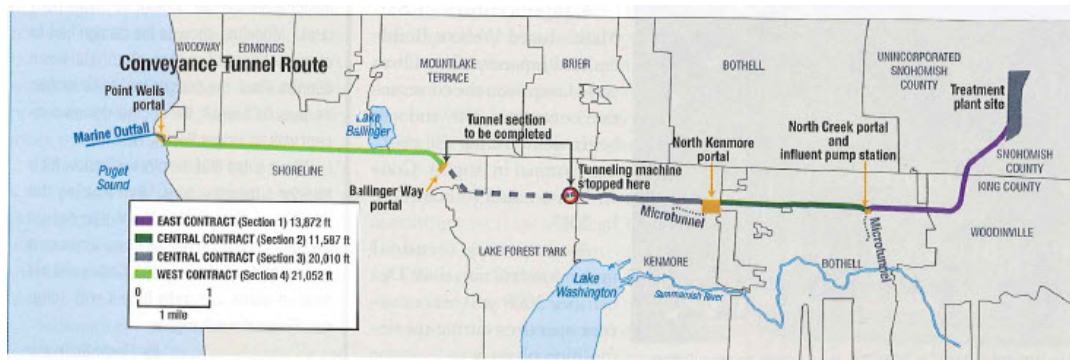


King County Brightwater Conveyance — Frequently asked questions about work to complete the Brightwater tunnel section between Kenmore and Ballinger Way in Shoreline

We have heard about recent changes to the Brightwater project. Can you explain what they are?

In spring 2009, one of four tunnel boring machines (TBMs) mining the 13-mile Brightwater Conveyance Project became stalled 330 feet below ground in Lake Forest Park. The TBM was mining from Kenmore to Ballinger Way in Shoreline and had completed about two miles of its four-mile journey.



In February 2010, due to concerns about construction costs and delays with this troubled section of the tunnel and the increased risk of system overflows and impacts to public health and safety, the King County Executive made a decision to change contractors. The county selected Jay Dee Coluccio (JDC) to complete the two remaining miles of tunnel because of their recent success in mining from Point Wells to Ballinger Way and the availability and capability of their TBM to continue mining east from Ballinger to Lake Forest Park. JDC estimates they will complete the tunnel at a substantially lower cost and more than a year sooner than the original contractor.

What activities will occur at the Ballinger Way site?

Increased work at the Ballinger site will be temporary and last about three months. Beginning in June, JDC will move the tunneling machine that has mined from Point Wells into the 200-foot deep shaft at the Ballinger site. This will take about two weeks. Once the TBM is in the shaft, several sections will be lifted to the surface to be reconditioned. Remaining portions will be refurbished inside the shaft. Cranes will be used to lift the TBM sections to the surface and to lift equipment and crews in and out of the shaft. Several maintenance trucks will make deliveries to the site on a daily basis. Larger trucks will only make occasional deliveries over the three-month period.

How will tunneling occur?

When reconditioning is complete, the TBM sections will be placed back in the shaft and the machine will be reassembled so that tunneling can begin this fall. Activities will then shift back to Point Wells in Richmond Beach where tunneling operations will be based, and surface activities at the Ballinger site will be greatly reduced. Tunneling is expected to continue from Point Wells to Lake Forest Park until fall 2011. Crew members, supplies and equipment will enter the tunnel at Point Wells and excavated soils will be removed and barged from this location.

What will the work hours be at the Ballinger Way site?

During temporary work to refurbish the TBM at the Ballinger site, crews will work in shifts from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on weekends, and overnight from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. seven days a week.

Overnight work will not involve heavy construction activities or equipment. About five to ten crew members will be onsite, and there will be no nighttime deliveries. Some construction noise is expected during this three-month period, but the county and its contractor have taken steps to minimize impacts. The Ballinger site is buffered between two commercial buildings on the east and west, and a 12-foot screen wall has been installed on the north and south sides of the site. The county will continue to monitor noise and construction activities to ensure that all permit conditions are met.

We also have a 24-hour construction hotline at 206-205-5989 if community members have questions or concerns, or you can email us at Brightwater@kingcounty.gov.